

POOLVILLE ISD STUDENT DRUG TESTING POLICY

The District requires drug testing of any student in grades 7–12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities. “Extracurricular activities” for purposes of this program include athletic programs, cheerleading, literary activities, One Act Play, Academic Decathlon, UIL academic/theater contests, stock showing and other agriculture related activities, any other club or organization that participates in performances, contests, demonstrations or competitions.

SCOPE

A student participating in extracurricular activities is subject to random screenings throughout the school year for the presence of illegal drugs.

PURPOSE

The purposes of the drug-testing program are to:

- Help enforce a drug-free educational environment.
- Deter student use of illegal drugs.
- Give students a valid reason to resist peer pressure to use illegal drugs.
- Educate students regarding the harm caused by the use of illegal drugs.
- Prevent injury, illness, and harm resulting from the use of illegal drugs.

DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY

The District shall provide each parent and student a copy of the drug-testing policy and consent form prior to the student's participation in the district's random drug testing program. The drug-testing policy may be requested in hard copy or may be viewed electronically.

CONSENT

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, the student shall be required to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug- testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. The consent form may be rescinded at any time at the parent's or student's written request. A student whose consent has been rescinded shall forfeit the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities.

USE OF RESULTS

Drug test results shall be used only to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties. Nevertheless, nothing in this policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct. A student who commits a disciplinary offense shall be subject to consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Drug test results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parents, and designated District officials who need the information in order to administer the drug-testing program. Drug test results shall not be maintained with a student's academic record. Results shall not be otherwise disclosed except as required by law.

Should a student who has experienced a suspension of participation in extracurricular activities under this policy for testing positive transfer to another school and try out for extracurricular activities, the Superintendent shall acknowledge on the UIL previous athletic participation form that the student was suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for a violation of policy without further elaboration. The student's parent or guardian may, however, be required by the UIL district executive committee to further explain the suspension in order to be eligible to participate at the new school.

TESTING LABORATORY

The District shall contract with a certified drug-testing laboratory to conduct testing of students' drug testing samples. Testing laboratories shall not release statistics regarding the rate of positive drug tests to any person or organization without the consent of the district or organization.

SUBSTANCES FOR WHICH TESTS ARE CONDUCTED

The District shall not test for medical conditions under this policy. A drug test may screen for any illegal drugs that the District, at its discretion, may choose, including, but not limited to, the following: amphetamines, benzodiazepines, cocaine, opiates, PCP (phencyclidine), THC (marijuana), oxycodone, barbiturates, and propoxyphene.

COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Personnel from the drug-testing laboratory shall collect samples under conditions that are no more intrusive than the conditions experienced in a public restroom. When selected for testing, a student shall be escorted to the school's testing site by a District employee and shall remain under employee supervision until the student provides a sample.

RANDOM TESTING

All students who participate in an extracurricular activity during the school year or who have consented to the District's voluntary drug-testing program shall make up a random testing pool and be subject to random testing throughout the school year.

The District may, but is not required, to test all students participating in extracurricular activities at the beginning of the school year. Up to 25% of the students participating in the program shall be subject to being randomly selected for each random test date. The drug-testing laboratory shall use a random selection method to identify students chosen for random testing. Students shall not receive prior notice of the testing date or time. The number of tests to be conducted during a school year and the percentage of the student body to be tested at each testing shall be determined by the administration.

REFUSAL TO TEST OR TAMPERING

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who is determined to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

If a student is absent on the day of the random test, a sample shall be collected on the next random testing date.

CONFIRMATION OF POSITIVE RESULTS

An initial positive test shall be confirmed by the testing laboratory, in addition to being screened by a Medical Review Officer, before being reported to the District as positive. Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the District shall schedule a meeting with the student and the student's parents/guardians to review the test results and discuss consequences. The student or parent/guardian shall have three school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result. If the student is taking or has recently taken prescribed medication, he or she shall be required to provide proof of his or her prescription. The student shall not be required to disclose any medical condition, and any medical information revealed by disclosing the use of medication shall be kept strictly confidential by the District unless it is lawfully compelled to disclose. Any student who has tested positive for an illegal drug as a result of properly taking prescribed medication shall be deemed to have a negative result.

RETESTING

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities after any applicable consequences, the student must bring a negative test result at the end of the period of suspension from a reputable drug testing entity.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment at the specific grade level campus. (Positive test results in Junior High will not carry over to the High School)

FIRST OFFENSE

Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test for one or more tested substances, a student shall receive a verbal and written warning and be required to complete a drug awareness/abuse counseling protocol under the supervision of the school counselor not to begin until a minimum of 72 hours following notification to the parent and student of the test results. In addition, the student will be subject to mandatory testing at the next scheduled school drug testing date.

SECOND OFFENSE

Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test for one or more tested substances, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 30 school days beginning 72 hours following notification to the parent and student of the test results. In addition, the student will be subject to mandatory testing at the next two scheduled school drug testing dates.

THIRD OFFENSE

Upon a third offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test for one or more tested substances, a student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity for one calendar year beginning 72 hours following notification to the parent and student of the test results. A negative test must be submitted following the one-year calendar suspension to be considered for participation reinstatement to the extracurricular program(s).

END OF SEMESTER SUSPENSIONS

If a student's suspension from participation in extracurricular activities is not completed by the end of the semester, the student shall complete the assigned period of suspension during the following semester or during the first semester of the following school year.

SUSPENSION DEFINED

For the purposes of the Poolville ISD Student Drug Testing Program, suspension will be defined as the student having no active participation in contests, games, and/or scheduled events and no associated travel privileges with the extra-curricular program(s).

Practices and continued enrollment and/or active participation in the extra-curricular program(s) will be allowed and are not subject to this definition of suspension.

REINSTATEMENT AFTER OPTING OUT

If a student who leaves or quits an extracurricular activity after testing positive wants to be reinstated, he or she must have the permission of the sponsor/coach and principal. With permission, the student may be reinstated to the activity and shall be required to complete the suspension period, if any, not completed satisfactorily prior to the student's quitting the activity.

APPEALS

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG(LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities while the appeal is pending.

